AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111

Serial Number: 10/086,590

Filing Date: February 28, 2002

Title: RETRACTABLE PANEL INTERFACE CABLE DEVICE AND METHOD

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IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

- 1. (Currently Amended) An avionic wiring system, comprising:
 - a flexible guide adapted for connection between a first device and a second device;

wherein the flexible guide limits communication line movement <u>adjacent to a mounting</u> <u>surface</u> to substantially a two dimensional plane, and wherein the flexible guide is movable in a range of motion, including a position where the communication line can be accessed at a back <u>side of</u> between the mounting surface and the second device.

- 2. (Original) The wiring system of claim 1, wherein the two dimensional plane is oriented vertically or horizontally.
- 3. (Original) The wiring system of claim 1, wherein the flexible guide includes an "S" shape when the flexible guide is in a retracted state.
- 4. (Original) The wiring system of claim 1, wherein the flexible guide includes a number of jointed segments.
- 5. (Original) The wiring system of claim 1, further including a flexible guide frame attached to the flexible guide wherein the flexible guide frame is adapted for mounting to a mounting frame.
- 6. (Previously Presented) The wiring system of claim 5, further including a stop attached to the flexible guide frame.
- 7. (Currently Amended) An avionics instrument mounting system, comprising:
 - a first device attached to a mounting surface;
 - a second device coupled to the first device by at least one communication line; and

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a flexible guide coupled between the first device and the second device, wherein the flexible guide limits communication line movement <u>adjacent to the mounting surface</u> to substantially a two dimensional plane, wherein the flexible guide is movable in a range of motion, including a position where the communication line can be accessed at a back side of between the mounting surface and the second device.

- 8. (Original) The avionics instrument mounting system of claim 7, wherein the first device includes an avionic module, and the second device includes a display unit.
- 9. (Original) The avionics instrument mounting system of claim 7, wherein the two dimensional plane is oriented vertically or horizontally.
- 10. (Original) The avionics instrument mounting system of claim 7, wherein the flexible guide includes an "S" shape when the flexible guide is in a retracted state.
- 11. (Original) The avionics instrument mounting system of claim 7, wherein the flexible guide includes an "C" shape when the flexible guide is in a retracted state.
- 12. (Original) The avionics instrument mounting system of claim 8, wherein the display unit includes a flat panel screen.
- 13. (Original) The avionics instrument mounting system of claim 7, wherein the flexible guide includes a number of jointed segments.
- 14. (Currently Amended) An avionics instrument mounting system, comprising:
 - a mounting frame attached to a mounting surface;
 - an electronic module attached to the mounting frame;
 - a display unit coupled to the electronic module by at least one communication line;
- a flexible guide coupled between the electronic module and the display unit, wherein the flexible guide limits communication line movement to substantially a two dimensional plane,

wherein the flexible guide is movable in a range of motion, including a position where the communication line can be accessed at a back side of between the mounting surface and the display unit; and

a stop coupled to the mounting frame, the stop limiting the flexible guide to a depth within the mounting frame.

- 15. (Previously Presented) An avionics instrument mounting system, comprising:
 - a mounting frame attached to a mounting surface;
 - an electronic module attached to the mounting frame;
 - a display unit coupled to the electronic module by at least one communication line;
- a flexible guide coupled between the electronic module and the display unit, wherein the flexible guide limits communication line movement to substantially a two dimensional plane;
- a stop coupled to the mounting frame, the stop limiting the flexible guide to a depth within the mounting frame; and
- a flexible guide frame attached to the mounting frame along a range of mounting locations with respect to the mounting frame.
- 16. (Previously Presented) The avionics instrument mounting system of claim 15, wherein the range of mounting locations includes a horizontal range of mounting locations.
- 17. (Previously Presented) The avionics instrument mounting system of claim 15, wherein the stop is attached to the flexible guide frame.
- 18. (Previously Presented) The avionics instrument mounting system of claim 15, further including an electrical connector located on an end of the flexible guide and adjacent to the display unit, the electrical connector being accessible when the display unit is in an unmounted state and the flexible guide is in an extended state.
- 19. (Original) The avionics instrument mounting system of claim 14, wherein the mounting surface includes a cockpit instrument panel.

- 20. (Original) The avionics instrument mounting system of claim 14, further including a motherboard coupled between the electronic module and the flexible guide.
- 21. (Previously Presented) A method of mounting an avionics instrument system, comprising:

attaching an electronic module to a mounting surface;

coupling a display unit to the electronic module using at least one communication line; routing the communication line along a flexible guide coupled between the electronic module and the display unit, wherein the flexible guide limits communication line movement to substantially a two dimensional plane;

extending the flexible guide during a connecting operation with the display unit; and retracting the flexible guide to a position where the display unit is to be mounted.

- 22. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein routing the communication line along the flexible guide includes routing the communication line along a flexible guide limiting communication line movement substantially to a vertical two dimensional plane.
- 23. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein coupling a display unit to the electronic module includes coupling a flat panel screen to the electronic module.
- 24. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein routing the communication line along the flexible guide includes routing along a jointed segmented flexible guide.
- 25. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing an avionics instrument system, comprising:

forming an electronic module adapted for attachment to a mounting surface;

forming a display unit;

coupling the display unit to the electronic module using at least one communication line;

forming a flexible guide; and

coupling the flexible guide between the electronic module and the display unit, wherein the flexible guide limits communication line movement adjacent to the mounting surface to substantially a two dimensional plane, wherein the flexible guide is movable in a range of motion, including a position where the communication line can be accessed at a back side of between the mounting surface and the display unit.

- 26. (Original) The method of claim 25, wherein coupling the flexible guide includes coupling a flexible guide wherein the flexible guide limits communication line movement to substantially a vertical two dimensional plane.
- 27. (Original) The method of claim 25, wherein coupling the flexible guide includes coupling a flexible guide in an "S" shape when the display unit is mounted in front of the electronic module.
- 28. (Previously Presented) An avionics instrument system, comprising: an avionic module adapted to process avionic data;

a separate display unit adapted to display at least a portion of the avionic data, the display unit being coupled to the avionic module by at least one communication line, wherein the display unit is movable from a first location adjacent to the avionic module, to a second location spaced apart from the avionic module with the communication line attached; and

a flexible guide coupled between the first device and the second device, wherein the flexible guide limits communication line movement to substantially a two dimensional plane.

- 29. (Previously Presented) The avionics system of claim 28, further including a number of avionic modules coupled to the separate display unit.
- 30. (Previously Presented) The avionics system of claim 28, wherein the display unit includes a flat panel display screen.